

Tampering With Safety

City crews this week, within the relatively short space of an hour or so, doubled the number of boulevard stops on Crenshaw Blvd. between Palos Verdes Drive North and Wilshire Blvd.

At the insistence of a member, the city council last week overrode the advice of its professional traffic engineer and ordered the installation of a stop sign on Crenshaw Blvd. at its intersection with Sonoma, described by the councilman as a through street.

Installation of the new sign this week end was made just one block south of the only other boulevard stop sign on the entire length of the heavily traveled between its nominal terminals of Wilshire Blvd. and Palos Verdes Drive North.

Regulation of traffic in a metropolitan area such as Los Angeles County can not be accomplished at the whim of individuals. Scientific studies of traffic flow, combined with years of serious research on the most effective ways of moving large volumes of traffic with the least hazard to all concerned have all but eliminated the stop sign on major arteries.

For the city council to decide on its own that a boulevard stop should be installed on a busy street over the objections of its trained and highly competent professional engineer certainly does not lie beyond the scope of its power, but we think, it goes beyond the bounds of sound reasoning.

Such stop signs neither ease the flow of traffic nor reduce the hazards of the intersection—but, on the contrary, they compound the problems of moving traffic and add four-fold to the probability of accidents.

The new Sonoma boulevard stop and the one at Eldorado should be eliminated. The costs to the public in inconvenience and increased accident probability far outweigh the value of having octagonal monuments erected on street corners.

School Issue Supported

Torrance voters approved the Torrance Unified School District's request for a 50-cent override tax at a special election held last Tuesday.

This newspaper supported the Board's position and urged passage of the additional tax, a policy based on the conclusion that the additional funds urgently are needed if the schools are to maintain their services to the children of the community at an adequate level.

The special election attracted a large turnout, and carried by the margin of 430 votes. There were 6742 of the 13,854 who expressed themselves as opposed to granting the additional funds.

Our interpretation of the results seems to indicate that most voters are willing at their own expense to support their schools and that there are many others who feel the costs already are too high.

As school authorities have emphasized, the additional money made available by the override still places the schools in a position where maximum economy must be the watchword throughout this city's burgeoning educational system.

Semantics, D.C. Style

A semanticist might fathom the logic expressed last week by newly appointed U.S. Commissioner of Education Sterling M. McMurray, but he certainly leaves many people wondering.

"I see no reason why federal aid to education must mean some kind of federal dictation to local institutions," said the University of Utah administrator and philosophy professor upon his appointment to the top federal school job.

In the next breath, however, McMurray cautioned that "without a strong, centralized government agency taking a firm hand in the educational direction of the nation, we are likely to drift in such a way that our educational institutions will not satisfy the demands of the nation."

If a "firm" federal hand in any enterprise — particularly that of a lower echelon of government — doesn't mean federal dictation, then most Americans have been misreading their recent history.

Opinions of Others

There's nothing like good, old-fashioned competition. The poultry industry has come up with a new plan to widen its market. In a test in Ithaca, N. Y., frankfurters made of chicken—they called them "bird dogs" captured 15 percent of normal hot dog sales.—Carlsbad (N.M.) Current-

Don't Look At Me, Senor!



AFTER HOURS by John Morley

Washington Reactions

- You can identify a Republican in the capital today because he is wearing a hat.
Itching and scratching for ways to keep America ahead are two entirely different things.
The Kennedy era may well go down in history as the Celtic Renaissance.
President Kennedy's statements of making the government responsible for everything that ails us—from a lettuce dispute in El Centro, California to a blizzard in New York—is, of course, like music to the socialists and loafing angels...

YOUR INCOME TAX

Not All Income Counts For Taxes, Experts Say

(This is the second of a series of articles on federal and California income tax filing. This information has been provided by the Committee on Taxation of The California Society of Certified Public Accountants.)

Not all the money you received during 1960 was "income" in the eyes of the federal government. Much of it does not need to be reported at all — and here, surprisingly, is where taxpayers make the greatest number of mistakes.

You don't, for example, list Social Security benefits, Railroad Retirement Act benefits, or payments received under Workmen's Compensation Laws.

Nor do you list gifts, inheritances or bequests.

But you DO list tips. These are income because they are construed to be compensation for services.

What about "dividends" received from an unmaturing life insurance policy? They DON'T need to be listed because they are considered merely a refund of part of the premium you paid.

As for dividends from corporations, some are partly or fully non-taxable and others are reportable on the federal return as long-term capital gains. (In such cases the company will usually send you a notice explaining how to report the dividend.)

Damages received for personal injuries are not considered taxable income, whether awarded by a court or settled out of court.

When listing your income you can also omit government benefits to veterans and their families — except non-disability retirement pay and the interest on terminal leave bonds.

On your California return

you may also exclude your pay for service in the Armed Forces to the extent of \$1000.

On your federal return you must include your interest from United States Bonds but you need not include interest on state and municipal bonds. However, when preparing your California return, the reverse is true. You may exclude your United States Bond interest but must include your income from state and municipal bonds of states other than California.

Although compensation for services is generally taxable — whether paid in money or otherwise — the law specifically exempts the rental value of a parsonage (including utilities) furnished to a minister, or the rental allowance expended by him for this purpose.

The official tax instructions contain a list of the types of income which should or should not be included in

your tax return. It is important to check this carefully.

Generally speaking, a prize or award received during the year is taxable income. However, an award for educational, literary, scientific, charitable, or similar achievement, if received without any action on your part and where no services are required of you, is considered a gift and is not taxable.

Some income, such as limited amounts of "sick pay" and the first \$50 of certain dividends, must be EXPLAINED in your federal tax return but is not taxed. These items are, however, taxable in your California return.

The instructions that come with your tax forms give further information. Help is also available from the Internal Revenue Service, California Franchise Tax Board, or by consulting a properly qualified advisor if you need outside assistance.

Law in Action

Don't Burn the Mortgage

Don't burn your mortgage. But if you must hold a public doings for your now paid for lodge or church, set a match to some "dummy," or photo copy of the mortgage. Keep your original note and mortgage as a safeguard against non-payment claims and the like.

Sometimes income tax collectors question tax deduc-

tions taken for interest payment. It may satisfy them to see the note with the interest payments endorsed on it. Some people think a mortgage is worthless after you pay it off. But the mortgage shows that you have given a lien to the lender as security upon certain real estate. Lenders usually record and file their mortgages so that prospective buyers can know of the lien.

When you pay the debt, get a written "satisfaction of the mortgage" to show that the lien has been wiped out. Otherwise it might even happen, even if you have burned the note, mortgage, and proof of payment, that you might

have to pay again. Or you may have to get a court to clear the cloud on your title before you can sell again.

Check the papers when you pay. Then if you find any mistakes, you can correct them while all the parties are alive and on hand. Otherwise you may not find the errors until you put the property up for sale years later or try to get a new mortgage. By then the lender may have lost interest, moved away, or died. In California, deeds of trust are much more common than mortgages, but in most respects the same rules apply to deeds of trust as to mortgages. Keep them.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

Out of the Past

From the Files of the HERALD

Plans for the construction of the building presently housing the A&P Market at 1328-1330 El Prado were announced by Sam Levy in the Feb. 20, 1941 edition of the HERALD.

Civic leaders were also well into a campaign to acquire 800 acres of land for a district airport with an immediate goal of achieving proper facilities for two Torrance

firms constructing training planes for the impending World War II. The location at Hawthorne Blvd. and Pacific Coast Hwy. eventually was purchased by the government and given to the city after the war.

Gang fights among teenagers made news even in those days. A story told of a group of Torrance high school students mixing with a group from two nearby cities. Two lads were injured and the police were given a busy time in rounding up the miscreants.

Torrance had a storm that brought 3.54 inches of rainfall bringing the season's total to 17.76 inches, four inches more than had been recorded during the entire year of 1939.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Derouin were hosts when they entertained with a spaghetti supper at their home on Beech St. Saturday evening. An ice skating party at a Los Angeles rink followed.

First of a series of family dinner parties sponsored by the Torrance City Em-

ployees Assn, was attended by 160 in the old Civic Auditorium. President Jack Halinger presided at the event.

The new home of the J. W. Beemans on El Prado was the setting for an attractively appointed program of the Cornelia club. Guests presented the hostess with a Chinese flowering magnolia tree for her new garden.

More road signs pointing to Torrance were being sought by Dean L. Sears, a member of the board of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Stressed were signs along the route near the new \$22 million Douglas plant.

U.S. Department of Commerce figures showed Torrance stores did a total business of \$2,959,000 in 1939. There were 138 establishments covered in the report with 34 food stores doing the largest volume of any classification.

A complete file of all bills pending before the State Legislature had been placed on file at the Chamber of Commerce office by Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

STAR GAZER by CLAY R. ROLLAN. Your Daily Activity Guide. According to the Stars, To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1-Preposition, 4-Linger, 8-Book up, 12-Exist, 13-Military assistant, 14-Lamb's pen name, 15-Wire message, 17-Girl's name, 18-The sweetest for animals, 21-Performer, 23-Political group, 24-Precipitation, 25-Tattletale, 29-Winged, 31-Macaw, 32-Turncoat, 34-Death notice (tool), 35-Religious devotee, 36-Of Celebes (pl.), 37-Dull gray, 40-Declarer, 41-Aleutian island, 45-Concern, 46-Latin for "journey", 47-Glassy element, 48-Unit of Portuguese currency, 49-European, 50-Precious stones, 51-Unit of Japanese currency. DOWN: 1-Obese, 2-Native metal, 3-Kin, 4-Hat, 5-Ventilates, 6-Girl's name, 7-Beam spanning a doorway, 8-Choose, 9-Man's name, 10-Evergreen tree, 11-Girl's name in Germany, 16-Short jacket, 20-Repentance, 21-Sandarae tree, 22-Ginocchio for animals, 23-Wire nails, 25-Flirting, 26-Workers, 27-Silkworm, 28-Rodent, 29-Chills and fever, 33-Suffer patiently, 34-Extraordinary person (slang), 36-Genus of herbs, 37-Placed, 38-Girl's name, 39-Solar disc, 40-Tiny particle, 43-Born, 44-Bishopric, 45-Metal.